

Message Text

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TO ALL EAST ASIAN AND PACIFIC DIPLOMATIC POSTS

AMCONSUL BIEN HOA

AMCONSUL CAN THO

AMCONSUL DANANG

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL NHA TRANG

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TREASURY

INFO USSAGE NAKHON PHANOM

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COGARD POLAD

AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST BY POUCH

XMT AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY SUVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, XC, US

SUBJECT: FEBRUARY 14 EA PRESS SUMMARY

1. INDOCHINA

NYDN QUOTES NESSEN THAT DELEGATION OF ABOUT 20 MEMBERS
OF HOUSE AND SENATE WOULD "BE ENLISTED" TO VISIT INDOCHINA
TO MAKE "HONEST ASSESSMENT" OF SITUATION AND REPORT
FINDINGS TO PRES AND CONGRESS. ASKED IF PRES MIGHT
AMEND REQUEST FOR EXTRA MIL AID IF DELEGATION CONCLUDES
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IT IS UNWARRANTED, NESSEN SAID HE WILL "CERTAINLY LISTEN

TO WHAT THEY COME UP WITH"; ADDED THAT LONGTIME WAR FOE REP RYAN RETURNED FROM SVN WITH "SOME MODIFICATION" OF VIEWS. WH AND CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS WORKING TOGETHER TO SELECT DELEGATION AND "ALL GROUPS WOULD BE REPRESENTED." NYDN OPINES THAT MOVE IS TO LINE UP SUPPORT FOR PRES' REQUEST FOR MORE MIL AID, AND WH "CLEARLY BELIEVES" TRIP WILL HAVE FAVORABLE IMPACT ON ISSUE. SAYS DOS REPORTS INDICATE "LOBBYING TASK FORCE" HEADED BY USEC MAW AND EA'S HABIB WOULD PROBABLY ACCOMPANY DELEGATION. NOTES THAT ANNOUNCEMENT OF TRIP FOLLOWED RELEASE OF SASC REPORT THAT RECOMMENDS CONTINUED FINANCIAL AID, BUT NO TROOPS, FOR SVN.

WP'S KILPATRICK SAYS CODEL WILL LEAVE IN WEEK TO TEN DAYS FOR SVN AND CAMBODIA. AMB MARTIN IS ASSISTING IN PROJECT AND, ACCORDING ONE SOURCE, FIRST SUGGESTED IT AS WAY OF SUPPORTING HIS CONTENTION THAT MORE AID IS IN US INTEREST.

S-N'S JOHNSTON (2/13) FINDS ADMIN DETERMINED TO PULL OUT ALL STOPS IN CAMPAIGN TO GET AT LEAST PART OF EXTRA MIL AID REQUESTED, SO REVIVING "LOBBYING GAMBIT" OF '60S - FULL DRESS CONGRESSIONAL TRIP TO SAIGON. SAYS LIST, WHICH CONTAINS FEW CONFIRMED OPPONENTS OR SUPPORTERS OF SUPPLEMENTAL, BEING PUT TOGETHER AT DOS WHERE "LOBBYING TASK FORCE" BEING FORMED HEADED BY MAW AND HABIB. STATES TOUR, MENTIONED BY PRES SEVERAL TIMES WITHOUT ANY APPARENT TAKERS, NOW APPEARS TO OCCUPY KEY PLACE IN SCHEDULE OF EVENTS THAT ADMIN HOPES WILL "EDUCATE" CONGRESS TO ITS VIEW. PREDICTS FORMAL HEARINGS ON SUPPLEMENTAL WILL START EARLY NEXT MONTH. HERBLOCK (WP) CARTOON SHOWS PRES BEHIND COUNTER OF "WH TRAVEL BUREAU" HANGING OUT OPEN-FOR-BUSINESS-AGAIN-SIGN; POSTER SAYS "CONGRESSMEN; VISIT VIETNAM; FLY NOW AND WE HOPE YOU'LL PAY AND PAY AND PAY LATER."

ON NUNN REPORT, JOHNSTON OPINES THAT IT OFFERS HINT OF COMPROMISE ON MIL AID QUESTION, AND THAT ITS AID-REDUCTION FORMULA, IF ACCEPTED, WOULD ALMOST CERTAINLY LOWER US AID LEVELS FURTHER. SAYS IT WAS CAUTIOUSLY WELCOMED BY WORKING-LEVEL VN SPECIALISTS

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IN ADMIN. NOTES INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY HAS BEEN UNDER PRESSURE TO PREPARE ESTIMATE OF COMMUNIST AID TO NVN THAT NUNN PROPOSAL WOULD REQUIRE, BUT THAT UP TO NOW VARIOUS AGENCIES UNABLE TO AGREE ON RATIONALE FOR TRANSLATING SOVIET AND CHINESE WEAPONS AND TRANSPORT COSTS INTO DOLLAR EQUIVALENTS. S-N'S GUDRY (2/13) SUMMARIZES MAIN POINTS OF NUNN REPORT.

REUTER SAIGON QUOTES INFORMED SOURCES THAT GROUP OF 4-6 SVN SENATORS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE FOR WASHINGTON 2/14 TO TALK ABOUT AID PROSPECTS WITH US LEGISLATORS AND OFFICIALS.

ADM GAYLER MET THURS WITH LON NOL IN PP TO REVIEW GKR SITUATION AND ASSESS US ASSISTANCE. ALSO HAD DISCUSSIONS WITH SOSTHENE FERNANDEZ AND US OFFICIALS (AP, SUN; WP; CHITRIB). US OFFICIAL SAID GAYLER WOULD STAY ONLY ONE DAY (CHITRIB).

US OFFICIAL SAYS AIRLINE WILL BE HIRED FOR SPECIAL 10-DAY AIRLIFT OF AMMO TO PP, AT COST OF 1.2 MIL DOLS.

ADDS THAT MOVE WILL INCREASE DELIVERIES UNTIL BIRD AIR CAN EXPAND OPERATIONS (AP, SUN; CHITRIB; WP). PENTAGON SPOKESMAN SAID WORLD AIRLINES OF OAKLAND AND AIRLIFT INTL OF MIAMI HAD BEEN HIRED FOR SPECIAL AIRLIFT (WP). UPI REPORTS ON RECRUITING EFFORT BY BIRD AIRLINES, "SUPPOSED TO BE SECRET," OPERATING OUT OF OBSCURE OAKLAND HOTEL TO FIND PILOTS AND NAVIGATORS TO FLY C-130S INTO PP. QUOTES OFFICIAL THAT THEY NEED 50 CREWMEN AND SO FAR HAVE HIRED 20. NOTES THAT HOTEL OWNED BY WM BIRD (PHINQ).

MIL SOURCES SAID THREE KHMER NAVY BOATS SUNK WHILE ATTEMPTING TO CLEAR MINES FROM MEKONG, AND SEVERAL FANK TROOPS POSITIONED TO SUPPRESS REBEL FIRE ON CONVOYS FROM SAIGON (AP, SUN).

ISAACS (SUN) ARTICLE ENTITLED "PHNOM PENH HOLDING OUT, BUT WORST LIES AHEAD," EXCERPTED IN USIA WIRELESS FILE 2/14.
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GLOBE AND MAIL'S BURNS (CSM) FROM PEKING REPORTS THAT HANOI ACCEPTED CANADIAN AMB TO PRC, JOHN SMALL, TO BE CONCURRENT AMB TO NVN. NOTES THAT SMALL WAITED YEAR BECAUSE OF NVN DEMAND THAT CANADA ACCEPT SOME FORM OF PRG REPRESENTATION THAT OTTAWA DECLINED, AS DID UK, BELGIUM AND HOLLAND. IMPASSE BROKE WHEN HANOI, WITHOUT REFERENCE TO FORMER DEMAND, INVITED NOMINEES OF CANADA, BELGIUM AND HOLLAND TO PRESENT CREDENTIALS. ENVOYS THEN MADE TRIP TO HANOI TO FORMALIZE STATUS AS NONRESIDENT AMBASSADORS. SMALL SAID PHAM VAN DONG COURTEOUS DURING VISIT, WITH DISCUSSIONS DWELLING MAINLY ON POSTWAR RECONSTRUCTION. ALSO GOT IMPRESSION THAT DRV EAGER TO TRADE, BUT CONSTRAINED BY FOREIGN EXCHANGE CONSIDERATIONS.

2. KOREA

AP (SEOUL) SAYS PRES PARK TERMS REFERENDUM ENDORSING POLICIES "VALUABLE DECISION" BY PEOPLE, BUT NOTES RETURNS SHOW 20 PERCENT DROP IN SUPPORT OF AUTHORITARIAN RULE. ONLY 58 PERCENT OF ELIGIBLE VOTERS SUPPORTED PARK, IN CONTRAST TO 80 PERCENT IN 1972 (BALTO N-A, WP).

SUN'S SEIDEN IN TOKYO NOTES PARK SUPPORTERS, OPPONENTS BOTH CLAIM REFERENDUM SHOWS THEIR STRENGTH, BUT COMMENTS VOTE "DID NOT REALLY PROVE ANYTHING". ON SURFACE, PARK WON CLEAR SUPPORT OF 73 PERCENT OF VOTERS, BUT IF NON-VOTERS COUNTED AS BOYCOTTERS, AND ADDED TO 25 PERCENT OPPOSED, WOULD SEEM ABOUT 40

PERCENT OF ELECTORATE IN ANTI-PARK CAMP. SEIDEN THINKS VOTE MAY HAVE "MARGINALLY IMPROVED" PARK IMAGE ABROAD, ESPECIALLY IN CONGRESS. CITES US DIPLOMAT THAT PARK "BETTER OFF HAVING DONE IT, EVEN IF NOBODY BELIEVES IT WAS COMPLETELY HONEST" BECAUSE NOW CAN SAY PEOPLE VOTED AND "THAT ALONE WILL TAKE SOME WIND OUT OF THE OPPOSITION'S SAILS".

USIA WIRELESS FILE 2/14 EXCERPTS NYT'S HALLORAN, SUN'S SEIDEN REPORTS ON REFERENDUM.

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3. JAPAN

AP (TOKYO) SAYS GOJ AGAIN REJECTS SOVIET PROPOSAL TO CONCLUDE TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION, ACCORDING MOFA SOURCES, BECAUSE WOULD SHELVE QUESTION OF SOVIET-OCCUPIED ISLANDS. BREZHNEV OFFERED PACT TO MIKI IN LETTER DELIVERED THURSDAY BY AMB TROYANOVSKY, REPEATING PROPOSAL GROMYKO MADE MIYAZAWA IN MOSCOW LAST MONTH (CHITRIB, PHINQ, WP, NYT, CSM).

JOC (NY) NOTES JOINT VENTURE TO PRODUCE L-LYSINE FOR ANIMAL FEED IN LYON, ANNOUNCED BY TORAY INDUSTRIES; PARTNERS ARE RHONE-POULENE, KYOWA HAKKO KOGYO; AIM FOR 10,000 TONS PER YEAR, BY 1977.

REUTER SAYS TREASURY THURSDAY ANNOUNCED FINAL DETERMINATION, REVOKING TENTATIVE DUMPING FINDING AGAINST SONY MADE LAST AUGUST (NYT).

4. THAILAND

UPI (BANGKOK) SAYS ASSEMBLY NAMED SENI PRAMOJ THURSDAY TO FORM FIRST POPULARLY ELECTED RTG IN THREE DECADES (BALTO N-A). CONFIRMATION FRIDAY SEEN FORMALITY (AP, SUN). MINORITY CABINET THAT MUST WIN VOTE OF CONFIDENCE SEEN LIKELY, WITH SENI COMBING "MILD SOCIALISM" WITH POLICIES OF SMALL PARTIES THAT SUPPORT HIM. SENI SAYS WILL "TRY TO BRING PERMANENT DEMOCRATIC RULE TO THAILAND" (PHINQ). SENI SAYS HE WILL SEEK SUPPORT MAINLY FROM SOCIAL AGRARIAN, NEW FORCE, SOCIAL ACTION PARTIES, BUT "IS HOLDING DOOR OPEN" FOR THAI NATION PARTY, IF HE CAN REACH AGREEMENT WITH LEADERS. MANY OF 46 ASSEMBLYMEN ABSENT FROM VOTE WALKED OUT WHEN SPEAKER CLOSED PROCEEDINGS TO PRESS, SPECTATORS; BUT REOPENED HOUSE BEFORE VOTE, AFTER 300 DEMONSTRATORS BROKE DOWN FRONT GATE OF PARLIAMENT, DEMANDING ADMISSION. SENI

SEEN NOT LIKELY TO APPROVE ACCELERATED US PULLOUT, UNCLASSIFIED

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SINCE STATED VN SITUATION MAKES US PRESENCE NECESSARY FOR THAI SECURITY (AP, NYT).

CSM'S SOUTHERLAND IN BANGKOK SAYS PRO-WESTERN ARISTOCRAT SENI WOULD BE CONSIDERED "STAUNCH CONSERVATIVE" IN MANY COUNTRIES BUT IN THAILAND IS VIEWED AS "MIDDLE-OF-ROAD." SAYS FEW OBSERVERS EXPECT MINORITY COALITION TO LAST "MUCH MORE THAN A YEAR."

5. PHILIPPINES

USIA WIRELESS FILE 2/14 CITES AFP MANILA (WP) ON SEATO EXERCISE, FEB 27-MAR 13.

COMMENT AND ANALYSIS

6. CHINA

LAT'S ELEGANT, IN HK, CONTENDS SKEPTICISM HAS RISEN AMONG CHINA SPECIALISTS IN RECENT MONTHS ABOUT BENEFITS ACCRUING TO US FROM "NORMALIZATION" OF SINO-US RELATIONS. SAYS BALANCE SHEET OF ADVANTAGES TO PRC AND US THROUGH PRESENT RELATIONSHIP SHOWS "DEFINITE TILT" IN PEKING'S FAVOR; CONSEQUENTLY, MANY AMERICANS FUNDAMENTALLY SYMPATHETIC TOWARD NORMALIZATION NOW SEE LITTLE POINT IN RUSHING TOWARD IT UNLESS IT BRINGS MORE DEFINITE, CONCRETE BENEFITS TO US.

IN ELEGANT'S VIEW, CHINESE HAVE GAINED UN ADMISSION AND WIDESPREAD DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION AND POLITICAL INFLUENCE; ACCESS TO US TECHNOLOGY, INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTS AND FOODSTUFFS AND POWERFUL COUNTERWEIGHT TO SOVIET. US "HAS GAINED SIGNIFICANT ASSISTANCE" IN REACHING VN C-F, ALTHOUGH CHINESE NOW APPEAR EITHER UNABLE OR UNWILLING TO RESTRAIN HANOI; THERE HAVE BEEN SIGNIFICANT SALES OF US GOODS TO CHINA (ALTHOUGH QUANTITY WILL DROP SHARPLY THIS YEAR), AND WE HAVE GAINED "A SOMETIME ALLY" AGAINST SOVIET EXPANSIONISM. CITES ONE ADDITIONAL "PROFOUND BENEFIT" FOR ALL HUMANITY: PARTLY AS CONSEQUENCE OF US POLICY, PEKING

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HAS "COME INTO THE WORLD"; HER GOVT AND PHILOSOPHY HAVE CHANGED FROM REPRESSIVE MAOISM TO PRAGMATISM.

BUT "PAST IS PRELUDE," AND US NOT LIKELY TO GAIN MUCH BY IMMEDIATE "NORMALIZATION" OF SINO-US RELATIONS UNLESS PEKING COMES UP WITH SOMETHING NEW. FINDS CHINESE HAVE TRIED USE OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTACTS

IN US ONLY TO SPREAD THEIR POINT OF VIEW OR PUBLICIZE PRC'S "MANIFOLD WONDERS"; MOST CHINESE DELEGATIONS TO US HAVE NOT BEEN FREE TO MIX INDISCRIMINATELY WITH ORDINARY AMERICANS OR REALLY TRIED PENETRATE ESSENTIAL REALITY OF AMERICAN PEOPLE. AMERICAN VISITORS TO CHINA HAVE ALSO BEEN CIRCUMSCRIBED. CHINESE NEWSMEN ACCREDITED TO UN ARE STATIONED IN NYC, BUT NO US NEWSMEN STATIONED IN PEKING; EVEN BRIEF VISITORS' VISAS NOW VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO OBTAIN. ELEGANT CITES VIEW OF US OFFICIAL AUTHORITY THAT IN CHINESE BID FOR NORMALIZATION, "THEY'LL HAVE TO SAY EXACTLY WHAT THEY WANT AND WHAT THEY'RE PREPARED TO OFFER" (FEB 13).

CITING MANSFIELD'S CALL ON US TO END ROC TIES AND NORMALIZE RELATIONS WITH PEKING, WP'S ROSENFIELD CONCLUDES THERE CAN BE VERY FEW PEOPLE LEFT IN WASHINGTON WHO FEEL DIFFERENTLY. "YET THINGS SEEM TO DRIFT." CITES HAK'S FEB 3 EXPRESSION OF UNAWARNESS THAT PEKING DISSATISFIED WITH STATE OF RELATIONS WITH US; BUT MANSFIELD AND OTHER AMERICANS INVITED TO PEKING INvariably RETURN WITH CONTRARY OPINION. SAYS ADMIN HAS NO VISIBLE TIMETABLE; ITS SPIRIT IS: KEEP COOL; "IT CONCEDES NO PRESSURES OF TIME OR PLACE AND SEEMS TO BELIEVE THAT MOSCOW'S HOSTILITY AND WASHINGTON'S GOOD WILL ARE ENDURING FACTORS WHICH RELIEVE THE US OF ANY NEED TO ACT NOW." NOR DOES MANSFIELD MAKE ANY SPECIFIC PROPOSALS HOW TO PROCEED.

FOR ROSENFIELD, MOST SENSIBLE IDEAS SEEN ARE FORMER ASSISTSEC ROBERT BARNETT'S, THAT ADMIN REINFORCE SHANGHAI COMMITMENTS BY HAVING VARIETY OF INCONSPICUOUS ACTIONS ORIGINATE IN VARIOUS PARTS OF USG WITH RESPECT

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TO ROC. BARNETT WOULD HAVE ADMIN APPLAUD SENATE'S FORMOSA RESOLUTION REPEALER; ENCOURAGE TAIPEI NOT TO STAND STIFFLY ASIDE FROM GENERAL ASIAN DETENTE BUT RATHER TRADE AND TALK WITH PEKING; ADVERTISE SUBSTANTIAL REDUCTION OF US FORCES ON TAIWAN; AND EMBRACE (JACKSON) GOAL OF ESTABLISHING FULL-SCALE DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS WITH PEKING WHILE PRESERVING SOMETHING LIKE LIAISON OFFICE IN TAIPEI. BARNETT WOULD ALSO SEEK TO MOVE FROM TAIWAN TREATY TO WIDER ASIAN SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, IN POLITICAL CONTEXT ENDING US INTERVENTION IN INTERNAL CHINESE AFFAIRS BUT ALLOWING FOR SOME DIFFERENCES AND SEPARATENESS FOR TAIWAN. ROSENFIELD URGES IT SHOULD NOT BE NECESSARY TO PREDICT GREAT PERIL OR WAIT FOR CRISIS IN ORDER TO GET PEOPLE AT LEAST TALKING ABOUT POSSIBILITIES.

7. INDOCHINA

YATES IN CHITRIB (2/9) SAYS ICCS NEEDS TO BE POLICED ITSELF. MEMBERS PROWL STREETS IN SEARCH OF BLACK MARKET AND GIRLS. MEMBERS RELAX WHILE VIETNAMESE DIE. COMMUNISTS REFUSE TO PAY BILLS. AMERICANS FEEL ICCS LAST HOPE FOR EFFECTIVE CEASEFIRE. UNANIMITY REQUIRED FOR ANY COMPLAINT TO BE ACTED ON. ALL 15 IN PAST TWO YEARS HAVE BEEN VS SVN. VC PREVENT NON COMMUNIST MEMBERS FROM GOING MORE THAN 50 YARDS BEYOND THEIR SITES.

BOST GLOBE EDIT (2/14) SAYS ADMIN. INTENDS TO PRACTICE "EVERY DECEPTION TO MAINTAIN FOOTHOLD" IN SEASIA WAR. EXAMPLE SEEN IN EXPANDED CAMBODIA AIRLIFT. CALLS FOR CONTINUED CONGRESSIONAL CUTS IN DOD BUDGET.

KEVIN PHILLIPS (BOST H-A 2/12) DISCUSSES MAJOR ISSUES FOR 1976, INCLUDING VN. SAYS FINAL US POLITICAL IMPACT WILL COME IF INDOCHINA FALLS, "AS NOW APPEARS LIKELY." QUOTES VP THAT IT WILL BE CONGRESS' FAULT IF IT HAPPENS. NOTES SOME CONSERVATIVES, "MUTTERING ABOUT 'YALTA' AND 'MUNICH,'" ARE RESURRECTING OLD BETRAYAL THEMES. BELIEVES ME HAWKISHNESS OF SOME PROMINENT VN DOVES MAY ALSO

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SERVE TO REFOCUS ATTENTION ON DIVISIVE 1964-74

DOMESTIC ROOTS OF US WAR POLICY.

RONALD REAGAN (PHIL BULLETIN 2/10) REVIEWS FAMILIAR ARGUMENTS IN FAVOR OF MORE MIL AID TO SVN, QUOTES ON-THE-SCENE OBSERVERS FROM AMERICAN CONSERVATIVE UNION THAT SVN TROOPS HAVE HAD TO WITHDRAW FROM DOZENS OF OUTPOSTS IN PAST TWO MONTHS AS RESULT OF INADEQUATE SUPPLIES, WHILE NO SUCH CUTBACKS HAVE HAMPERED NVA. CONCLUDES THAT IF SOME CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS PERSIST IN "OSTRICH-LIKE STANCE" AND BLOCK EXTRA FUNDS, WE MAY SEE COMMUNIST VICTORY IN INDOCHINA, NOT BECAUSE OF THEIR POPULARITY OR MIL SUPERIORITY, BUT BECAUSE WE FAILED TO HONOR OUR BARGAIN WITH OUR ALLY.

JOHNSON (WP) NOTES THAT ON HOLIDAY, AMERICAN JEWS GATHERED TO TAKE ONE MORE COLLECTION FOR TWO RECONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN TREES AND LIFE FOR VN CAMPAIGN. REMEMBERS SIMILAR ASSEMBLY ATTENDED BY MANY TWO YEARS AGO. SAYS AT MEETING, DEATH OF ONCE-HEALTHY PROJECT TO SEND FUNDS TO REBUILD VN WAS OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED. MONEY WAS SPLIT BETWEEN NVN AND SVN, BUT YOM KIPPUR WAR FOCUSED JEWISH ATTENTION ON ME AND INDOCHINA FORGOTTEN.

8. KOREA

LAT'S JAMESON IN SEOUL (2/12) SAW PEOPLE VOTING IN REFERENDUM ON PARK'S CALL FOR GAULLIST-LIKE CHOICE OF "ME OR CHAOS," INSTEAD OF EXPRESSING WILL ON AUTHORITARIAN CONSTITUTION AS ORIGINALLY ANNOUNCED. CITES DIPLOMATS WHO SAY VOTE ON MARTIAL-LAW CONSTITUTION WOULD HAVE AROUSED MORE OPPOSITION THAN REFERENDUM ON MAJOR PARK POLICIES. ADDS FEW OBSERVERS EXPECT VOTE TO END "FURTHER SPLIT OF NATIONAL OPINION AND DISPERSAL OF NATIONAL STRENGTH," AS CLAIMED BY INFO MIN LEE KYOO HYUN.

JAMESON ALSO NOTES (2/13) FRONT-PAGE AD CAMPAIGN BY LEADING BUSINESS FIRMS IN SUPPORT OF PARK BID FOR CONFIDENCE VOTE, IN 36 PAPERS NATIONWIDE, EXCEPT

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DONG-A ILBO. CITES SOURCES WHO SAY "GOVT OFFICIALS" ORDERED FIRMS TO PLACE, AND PAY FOR ADS, DESPITE LAW AGAINST REFERENDUM CAMPAIGNING. SAYS HITACHI AND

KOREAN AFFILIATE PLACED AD IN JOONG-ANG ILBO WEDNESDAY MORNING, READING: "LET'S PARTICIPATE IN THE NATIONAL REFERENDUM AND UNIFY NATIONAL OPINION," AND SEOUL TRADING CO AND UNION CELLOPHANE AD IN SHIN A ILBO EXHORTED VOTERS: "WITH A CORRECT POSTURE, LET'S CAST A CORRECT BALLOT." OPINES GOVT MAY HAVE ORDERED FIRMS TO PLACE ADS IN REACTION TO OPPOSITION BOYCOTT. SAYS ADS THEMSELVES CONSPICUOUS BECAUSE SEVERE RECESSION HAS SHARPLY CURTAILED SUCH DISPLAY ADS.

USIA WIRELESS FILE 2/14 QUOTES FULL TEXT WP EDIT ON "KOREAN PROSPECT."

PEARLSTINE AND LIPSKY IN WSJ (2/14) SAY ROK PLANS BORROWING 200 MILLION DOLS LATER THIS MONTH AND FINDING VERY TOUGH TERMS FROM CONSORTIUM OF LENDERS. FAILURE TO GET LOAN WOULD UPSET ROK ECO PLANS AND PRESENT SERIOUS POLITICAL FAILURE. BANKERS CHARY BECAUSE RPK ECO STATE SINCE OIL CRISIS SERIOUSLY WORSENED AND RISK CONSIDERABLY GREATER. NO ONE BANK WILL MANAGE LOANS BUT EIGHT COMANAGERS INVOLVED. BANKERS DISPLAYED KEEN INTEREST IN KOREA'S POLITICAL CONDITION OF THE TYPE USUALLY RESERVED FOR EMBASSY BRIEFINGS. CLAIMS MORGAN GUARANTY'S REENTRY INTO CONSORTIUM RELATED TO MORGAN'S BRITISH AFFILIATE PROMOTING A LOAN TO NORTH KOREA. CONCLUDES THAT NEW LOAN WOULD BE A DROP IN THE BUCKET SINCE ROK'S LONG RANGE BOP NEEDS VERY GREAT.

9. PACIFIC ISLANDS

SAFIRE IN NYT (FEB 13) LOOKS BEYOND COVENANT TO BE SIGNED ANY DAY NOW, THAT WOULD MAKE US CITIZENS OF 14,000 MARIANAS NATIVES AND LET HEM JOIN US AS COMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMMONTEALTH; "AS NIGHT FOLLOWS DAY," HEARS ANG RY CRIES FOR INDEPENDENCE, DEMANDS FOR STATEHOOD. WHAT, HE ASKS, ARE WE GETTING INTO, AND WHY? IN WEIGHING MILITARY NECESSITY TO ACQUIRE ISLANDS NOW WE SHOULD UNCLASSIFIED

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NOT FORGET STRATEGIC CONCEPTS AND WEAPONS DEVELOPED SINCE PEARL HARBOR. CAUTIONS THAT WHERE WE FIRMLY PLANT FLAG WE LOSE OPTION TO DECIDE WHAT TO DEFEND, AND WOULD HAVE TO RESPOND TO ATTACK ON ROTA SAME AS ONE ON NY OR PEORIA.

REUTER'S EGGENSPERGER IN GUAM, SAYS US, MARIANAS TO SIGN COMMONWEALTH AGREEMENT ON SAIPAN SATURDAY. NOTES ISLANDS, 1,500 MILES SOUTH OF TOKYO, ONE OF SIX DISTRICTS OF TTPI MANDATED TO US BY UN SINCE 1947.

UNDER AGREEMENT, ISLANDERS FREE TO BECOME AMCITS OR
US NATIONALS, WILL HAVE SELF-GOVERNMENT UNDER OWN
CONSTITUTION, WITH US PROVIDING DEFENSE. SAYS
TALKS ON FUTURE STATUS OF OTHER FIVE DISTRICTS
IN TTPI RESUME NEXT MONTH. MAW

NOTE BY OCT: POUCHED BUDAPEST.

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